



CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

NEWS RELEASE

Department of Toxic Substances Control

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Hazardous Waste Source Reduction Documents Now Available

SACRAMENTO--- Citing the need for public access to information regarding the generation and reduction of hazardous waste in the state, the California Environmental Protection Agency's Department of Toxic Substances Control Director Ed Lowry today announced that hazardous waste source reduction documents which outline monitoring and planning data for large waste generators is now available. The data was produced under the provisions of the Hazardous Waste Source Reduction and Management Review Act of 1989.

"The public has the right to access this information to determine which generators in California are making a sincere effort to reduce the production of hazardous wastes," said Lowry. Some generators are making great strides to reduce waste, while maintaining the same level of production," Lowry added.

Copies of the reports and plans can be obtained by contacting specific generators affected by the 1989 act.

Under the 1989 act, California's largest hazardous waste generators are required to prepare plans that include evaluations of alternatives that could reduce or eliminate hazardous wastes. Generators are allowed to use their knowledge of specific operations and procedures to identify the best approaches to reduce hazardous waste and prevent adverse environmental impact. The law does not require that specific waste management actions be taken.

This year the law required larger generators to prepare Summary Progress Reports and submit them to the DTSC. Copies of received Summary Progress Reports are available by contacting DTSC's Office of Pollution Prevention and Technology Development. Next year, the DTSC plans to post received Summary Progress Reports on its web site at dtsc.ca.gov.

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Based on the source reduction evaluations, generators are required to prepare the following documents:

- o Source Reduction Plan --contains information on hazardous waste streams generated in 1998, identification of the quantities of major waste streams and approaches evaluated and selected to reduce major waste streams over the next four years (1999-2003). Also, includes an implementation schedule for selected source reduction approaches.
- o Hazardous Waste Management Performance Report --contains information regarding the generator's accomplishments over the past four years to manage hazardous waste by using source reduction, recycling, treatment and disposal.
- o Progress Summary Report - - provides a comprehensive overview of a generator's major hazardous waste management practices over the last four years and some projections of waste reduction for the next four years.

Generators were required to submit their Summary Progress Reports (SPR) to the DTSC by September 1, 1999. The summary progress reports should be available on line next year.

To assist generators in meeting these requirements, the DTSC has produced guidance manuals, a checklist for small business, and the summary progress report format. A request for free DTSC source reduction publications may be made by contacting the following DTSC web site: opptddoc@dtsc.ca.gov.

For more information contact:
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DTSC is one of the six boards and departments within the California Environmental Protection Agency. DTSC's mission is to protect and enhance public health and the environment by regulating the management of hazardous waste and promoting reduction.